

HOUSE BILL 2506

By Hawk

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 44,
Chapter 15, relative to apiaries.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1.

(a) The commissioner of agriculture is directed to form a task force to study and make recommendations regarding the notification process that is used to inform registered beekeepers of aerial spraying of pesticides in the area of a registered apiary.

(b) The task force must include the state apiarist, at least one (1) registered beekeeper, a representative from the department of agriculture, and any other person the commissioner deems necessary. The members serve without compensation, but are eligible for reimbursement for travel expenses in accordance with the comprehensive travel regulations as promulgated by the department of finance and administration and approved by the attorney general and reporter.

(c) The task force shall determine:

(1) Who notifies registered beekeepers of aerial spraying of pesticides in the area of a registered apiary;

(2) The period of time between notice sent to the registered beekeepers and aerial spraying of pesticides and if the period should be extended;

(3) If there are instances when notice is not given to registered beekeepers in the area where aerial spraying of pesticides occurs, and the reason why notice is not given in such circumstance; and

(4) Any damage to a registered apiary that may be caused by aerial spraying of pesticides.

(d) On or before January 1, 2021, the task force shall report its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, regarding the notification process that is used to inform registered beekeepers of aerial spraying of pesticides in the area of a registered apiary to the members of the energy, agriculture and natural resources committee of the senate and the members of the agriculture and natural resources committee of the house of representatives. On January 1, 2021, this section is repealed.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring

it.